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BILL NO.: Senate Bill 949
**Public Utilities – Bills for Electricity Service –
Meter Reading**

COMMITTEE: Finance

HEARING DATE: March 31, 2021

SPONSOR: Senator Hershey

POSITION: Favorable

The Maryland Office of People’s Counsel (OPC) supports Senate Bill 949. The bill benefits consumers by providing them more information in their monthly bills. SB 949 requires that utilities regulated by the Public Service Commission (PSC) include in their customers’ bills for electricity service the customer’s exact meter readings from the close of the last billing and current billing cycles. This information would be listed on the monthly bill sent to the customer.

OPC supports the provision of the meter-reading information that is used to generate a customer’s monthly utility bill so that the customer can verify their usage with the charges for service. The provision of meter readings on customer bills was the traditional method to list usage by a customer before the adoption of automated metering information. The meter readings from the close of the last billing cycle and the close of the current billing cycle provides a useful check for customers.

Recommendation: OPC requests a favorable report on SB 949.